

Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-07

AID-05 MC-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /062 W

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R 191416Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4696

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 13026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, CI, UK

SUBJ: UK-CHILEAN GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

REF: STATE 204018; SANTIAGO 8037

1. FCO HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT FIRST VESSEL FOR CHILEAN NAVY ARRIVED IN CHILE AUGUST 17.
2. SECOND VESSEL IS IN "ADVANCED STATE OF CONSTRUCTION". IT IS DUE TO BE COMMISSIONED SHORTLY, FOLLOWING WHICH FIVE MONTHS OF TRIALS ARE SCHEDULED WITH DELIVERY TO CHILE EXPECTED SOMETIME IN EARLY 1977.
3. LATIN AMERICAN DEPARTMENT AT THE FCO STATED THAT NO COMPLICATIONS HAVE ARISEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECOND DELIVERY AND THAT HMG POLICY IS TO FULFILL ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, CHILE IS EXPECTED TO MEET ITS SIDE OF THE BARGAIN. APPARENTLY THE GOC OWES BRITAIN APPROXIMATELY 750,000 POUNDS ON THE FIRST CONSTRUCTION JOB. HMG HAS INTIMATED TO THE CHILEANS THAT THE COMMISSIONING OF THE SECOND VESSEL, AN EVENT PLANNED FOR THIS MONTH, MAY BE DELAYED UNLESS THE DEBT IS PAID. SHOULD THE GOC FAIL TO CLEAR ITS DEBT, WHITEHALL MAY BE "FORCED TO REVIEW THE CONTRACT".

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ARMSTRONG

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NNN

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